

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 1, 12, 23, 54, 71, 78, 83, 85 and 86 as indicated below.

1. (Currently amended) A method of transporting data through a data network, comprising:

receiving an encoded data;

mapping said received data to a predetermined data; and

inverse multiplexing said mapped predetermined data, wherein said inverse multiplexed mapped predetermined data includes a plurality of STS signals;

wherein said receiving further includes determining a data rate of said received encoded data;

wherein said receiving further includes recovering a clock signal from said received encoded data, ~~wherein said clock signal has a rate one tenth of said data rate.~~

2-8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said inverse multiplexing includes synchronizing said inverse multiplexed predetermined data.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein said inverse multiplexed predetermined data is synchronized to a predetermined clock signal.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said predetermined clock signal includes a phase locked loop clock signal.

12. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing data transport through a data network, comprising:

a clock recovery unit configured to receive an encoded data, wherein said clock recovery unit is further configured to detect a data rate of said received encoded data;

a data translation unit coupled to said clock recovery unit, configured to translate said received data to a predetermined data; and

an inverse multiplexer coupled to said data translation unit, configured to inverse multiplex said translated predetermined data, wherein said inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data includes a plurality of STS signals;

wherein said clock recovery unit is further configured to recover a clock signal from said received encoded data ~~wherein said clock signal has a rate one tenth of said data rate.~~

13-21. (Cancelled).

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12 further including a modem coupled to said inverse multiplexer configured to receive said inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data for transmission.

23. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 22 wherein said STS signals comprise ~~inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data includes a plurality of STS-3~~ signals.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said plurality of STS-3 signals includes eight STS-3 signals for transmission.

25-44. (Cancelled).

45. (Cancelled).

46-53. (Cancelled).

54. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing data transport through a data network, comprising:

- a clock recovery unit configured to receive an encoded data, and wherein said clock recovery unit is further configured to detect a data rate of said received encoded data;
- a data translation unit coupled to said clock recovery unit, configured to translate said received data to a predetermined data; and
- an inverse multiplexer coupled to said data translation unit, configured to inverse multiplex said translated predetermined data;
- a modem coupled to said inverse multiplexer configured to receive said inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data for transmission, wherein said inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data includes a plurality of STS-3 signals.

55. (Cancelled).

56. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 54 wherein said plurality of STS-3 signals includes eight STS-3 signals for transmission.

57-70. (Cancelled).

71. (Currently amended) A method of transporting data through a data network, comprising:

- receiving an encoded data, wherein said encoded data includes 8B/10B encoded data;
- mapping said received data to a predetermined data; and
- inverse multiplexing said mapped predetermined data, wherein said inverse multiplexed mapped predetermined data includes a plurality of STS signals;

wherein said receiving further includes determining a data rate of said received encoded data.

72. (Previously presented) The method of claim 71, wherein said encoded data includes one of a Gigabit Ethernet data and a Fiber Channel data.
73. (Previously presented) The method of claim 71 wherein said receiving further includes recovering a clock signal from said received encoded data.
74. (Previously presented) The method of claim 73 wherein said clock signal has a rate one tenth of said data rate.
75. (Previously presented) The method of claim 71 wherein said inverse multiplexing includes synchronizing said inverse multiplexed predetermined data.
76. (Previously presented) The method of claim 75 wherein said inverse multiplexed predetermined data is synchronized to a predetermined clock signal.
77. (Previously presented) The method of claim 76 wherein said predetermined clock signal includes a phase locked loop clock signal.
78. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing data transport through a data network, comprising:
- a clock recovery unit configured to receive an encoded data, wherein said encoded data includes 8B/10B encoded data, and wherein said clock recovery unit is further configured to detect a data rate of said received encoded data;
  - a data translation unit coupled to said clock recovery unit, configured to translate said received data to a predetermined data; and
  - an inverse multiplexer coupled to said data translation unit, configured to inverse multiplex said translated predetermined data, wherein said inverse

multiplexed translated predetermined data includes a plurality of STS signals.

79. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 78 wherein said encoded data includes one of a Gigabit Ethernet data and a Fiber Channel data.
80. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 78, wherein said clock recovery unit is further configured to recover a clock signal from said received encoded data.
81. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 80, wherein said clock signal has a rate one tenth of said data rate.
82. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 78, further including a modem coupled to said inverse multiplexer configured to receive said inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data for transmission.
83. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 82, wherein said STS signals ~~comprise inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data includes a plurality of STS-3~~ signals.
84. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 83 wherein said plurality of STS-3 signals includes eight STS-3 signals for transmission.
85. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing data transport through a data network, comprising:
- a clock recovery unit configured to receive an encoded data, wherein said clock recovery unit is further configured to detect a data rate of said received encoded data;
  - a data translation unit coupled to said clock recovery unit, configured to translate said received data to a predetermined data;

an inverse multiplexer coupled to said data translation unit, configured to inverse multiplex said translated predetermined data, wherein said inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data includes a plurality of STS signals; and  
a modem coupled to said inverse multiplexer configured to receive said inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data for transmission.

86. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 85 wherein said STS signals ~~comprise inverse multiplexed translated predetermined data includes a plurality of~~ STS-3 signals.

87. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 86 wherein said plurality of STS-3 signals includes eight STS-3 signals for transmission.